

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 FEA-02 INT-08

DRC-01 NIC-01 /148 W

----- 066414

R 181500Z JUN 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2716

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB AO

SUBJECT: LABOR TROUBLES MOUNT

REF: A. LUANDA 383; B. LUANDA 420

1. SUMMARY. LABOR ACTIVITIES CONTINUE TO FOLLOW PATTERN OF SHORT TOKEN STRIKES DESCRIBED REF A ALTHOUGH MILITANCY AND NUMBER OF STRIKES ARE ON INCREASE. END SUMMARY.

2. STRIKING BANK WORKERS (BEGAN JUNE 15) ARE FIRST TO USE PICKETS AND CAUSE SUBSTANTIAL PUBLIC DISRUPTION, INCLUDING SEVERAL TRAFFIC TIE-UPS DOWNTOWN. MILITARY COUNTERED BY DECLARING AS ILLEGAL PICKETS WHO IMPEDE ENTRANCE NONSTRIKERS, AND TO WARN THAT ARMY MAY BE "OBLIGED" TO INTERVENE. BANK WORKERS REPORTEDLY WANT ACROSS-BOARD 2000 ESCUDOS (\$80)/MONTH INCREASE. ONE SOURCE SAYS THEY AND BANKS WOULD BOTH ACCEPT 1000/MONTH. STRIKE EXPECTED TO END AFTERNOON JUNE 18 OR 19. MILITARY MEDIATORS SO FAR APPEAR LESS INVOLVED IN THIS STRIKE THAN IN OTHERS IN RECENT PAST. BANKS ARE SQUABBLING AMONG THEMSELVES, PARTLY BECAUSE SOME DO NOT WANT INDUSTRY-WIDE, IDENTICAL CON-

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TRACTS.

3. MUNICIPAL BUS SERVICE STRUCK MORNING JUNE 18.

4. PORT SLOWDOWN CONTINUES AS STEVEDORES REFUSE TO WORK MORE THAN 8 HOURS DAY (REF B). THIS ACTION AFFECTS PORTUGUESE SHIPS MORE THAN FOREIGN FLAGS DUE INVOLVEMENT MARITIME CREWS.

5. GOVERNMENT'S ROLE: AUTHORITIES HAVE HAVE SPREAD WORD THAT
A) SERVICE STATION ATTENDANTS STRIKE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED AND
B) COFFEE LOADING WILL NOT BE JEOPARDIZED. EXCEPT IN THESE CASES AND PRESUMABLY OTHERS INVOLVING VITAL SERVICES, ATTITUDE APPEARS HANDS-OFF, PERHAPS ASCRIBABLE TO LAME DUCK QUALITY OF GOVERNMENT PRIOR TO JUNE 15 AND LEISURELY PACE OF INSTALLING SUBSTITUTES.

6. IN THAT REGARD, CHOICE OF AFONSO MENDES AS LABOR SECRETARY IS BECOMING ISSUE OF CONTENTION FOR SEVERAL UNIONS AND MAY SERVE AS PRETEXT FOR WIDER LABOR DISRUPTION IN DAYS AHEAD. (SEE SEPTTEL.
BRIGGS

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Message Attributes

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